PEOPLE on the MOVE

Human Resources reports the following personnel changes:

Key Management Assignments

Charlie Justiz was selected as chief, Aviation Safety Office, Flight Crew Operations Directorate.

Scott Reagan was named aviation safety officer, Flight Crew Operations Directorate.

Promotions

Krystine Bui was selected as a contracting officer in the Projects Acquisition Office, Procurement Office.

Carol Neeley was selected as a contracting officer in the Space Station Acquisition Office, Procurement Office.

Monica Ruiz-Cortez was selected as lead secretary in the ISO 9000 Office.

Arlene Andrews was selected as division secretary in the Flight Avionics Division, Mission Operations Directorate.

Reassignments Between Directorates

Jerry Elliott moves from the Technology Transfer and Commercialization Office to the Space Shuttle Program Office.

Don Schmalholz moves from the Engineering Directorate to the International Space Station Program Office.

Barbara Smith moves from the Mission Operations Directorate to the International Space Station Program Office.

Beverly Braddy moves from the Engineering Directorate to the Space Shuttle Program Office.

Reassignments to Other Centers

Ray Shaughnessy of the International Space Station Program Office moves to Marshall Space Flight Center.

Retirements

Charlie Mendel of the EVA Project Office.

Resignations

Scott Hankins of the Engineering Directorate.

Craig Carothers of the Technology Transfer and Commercialization Office.

Linda Kurz of the International Space Station Program Office.

Todd Lucht of the White Sands Test Facility.

DATES & DATA

November 9

Aero Club meets: The Bay Area Aero Club will meet at 7 p.m. November 9 at the Houston Gulf Airport clubhouse at 2750 FM 1266 in League City. For more information call Larry Hendrickson at x32050.

CLA-NSS meets: The Clear Lake area chapter of the National Space Society will meet at 6:30 p.m. November 9 at the Freeman Memorial Branch Library, 16602 Diana Lane. For more information call Murray Clark at (281) 367-2227.

NPMA meets: The National Property Management Association will meet at 5 p.m. November 9 at Robinette and Doyle Caterers, 216 Kirby in Seabrook. Dinner costs $14. For more information call Sina Hawsey at x36582.

November 10

Astronomy seminar: The JSC Astronomy Seminar Club will meet at noon November 10, 17 and 24 in Bldg. 31, Rm. 248A. For more information call Al Jackson at x35037.

IAAP meets: The Clear Lake/NASA Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals (formerly Professional Secretaries International) will meet at 5:30 p.m. November 10 at Bay Oaks Country Club. Cost is $16. For more information and reservations, call Tami Barbour at (281) 488-0055, x238.

Spaceland Toastmasters meet: The Spaceland Toastmasters will meet at 7 a.m. November 10, 17 and 24 at the House of Prayer Lutheran Church. For more information, call George Salazar at x30162.

Spaceteam Toastmasters meet: The Spaceteam Toastmasters will meet at 11:30 a.m. November 10, 17 and 24 at United Space Alliance, 600 Gemini. For more information call Patricia Blackwell at (281) 280-6863.

November 11

Airplane club meets: The Radio Control Airplane Club will meet at 7 p.m. November 11 at the Clear Lake Park building. For more information call Bill Langdoc at x35970.

Communicators meet: The Clear Lake Communicators, a Toastmasters club, will meet at 11:30 a.m. November 11, 18, and 25 at Freeman Library, 16602 Diana Lane. For more information, call Allen Prescott at (281) 282-3281 or Mark Caronna at (281) 282-4306.

MAES meets: The Society of Mexican-American Engineers and Scientists will meet at 11:30 a.m. November 11 in Bldg. 16, Rm. 111. For more information, call George Salazar at x30162

November 12

Astronomers meet: The JSC Astronomical Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. November 12 at the Center for Advanced Space Studies, 3600 Bay Area Blvd. For more information, call Chuck Shaw at x35416.

November 14

Westside NSS meets: The "Westside" group of the Clear Lake area chapter of the National Space Society will meet at 2 p.m. November 14 at Silicon Graphics, 11490 Westheimer, Suite 100. For more information, call Murray Clark at (281) 367-2227.

November 17

Scuba club meets: The Lunarfins will meet at 7:30 p.m. November 17. For more information, call Mike Manering at x32618.

November 18

Directors meet: The Space Family Education board of directors will meet at 11:30 a.m. November 18 in Bldg. 45, Rm. 712D. For more information on this open meeting contact Lynn Buquo at x34716.

JSC NMA meets: The JSC National Management Association chapter will meet at the Nassau Bay Hilton November 18 at 11:30. Steve Smith, Brown and Root project manager for Enron Field, will be the guest speaker. More information is available at www.jsc.nasa.gov/nma/.

November 22

Alzheimer's support group meets: The Clear Lake Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group will meet at 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. November 22 in the first floor conference room, St. John Hospital West building, Nassau Bay. For additional information, contact Nancy Malley at (281) 480-8917 or John Gouveia (281) 280-8517.

December 2

Warning System Test: The site-wide Employee Warning System will perform its monthly audio test at noon November 4. For more information, call Bob Gaffney at x34249.

December 6

NSBE meets: The National Society of Black Engineers will meet at 6:30 p.m. December 6 at Texas Southern University, School of Technology, Rm. 316. For additional information, call Kimberly Topps at (281) 280-2917.

NASA BRIEFS

NASA SELECTS 200 SMALL BUSINESS PROJECTS

As part of its mission to encourage the development of new and advanced technologies, NASA has selected 290 research proposals for negotiation of Phase I contract awards for its 1999 Small Business Innovation Research Program. The total value of the awards is expected to be more than $20 million and will be conducted by 220 firms in 34 states.

In addition to stimulating innovation, the SBIR program aims to increase the number of small businesses, including women-owned and disadvantaged firms, conducting federal research and commercializing the results of federally funded research.

NASA received more than 2,260 proposals from small, high-technology businesses located throughout the United States.

NASA's field centers reviewed proposals for technical merit, feasibility and relevance to NASA research and technology requirements. The selected firms will be awarded fixed-price contracts worth up to $70,000 to perform a six-month Phase I feasibility study.

Companies which successfully complete the Phase I activities are eligible to compete for Phase II selection the following year. The Phase II award allows for a two-year, fixed-price contract of up to $600,000.

STARRY BULGES YIELD SECRETS OF GALAXY GROWTH

NASA's Hubble Space Telescope is uncovering important new clues to a galaxy's birth and growth by peering into its heart – a bulge of millions of stars that resemble a bulbous center yolk in the middle of a disk of egg white.

Hubble astronomers are trying to solve the mystery of which came first: the stellar disk or the central bulge?

Two complementary surveys by independent teams of astronomers using Hubble show that the hubs of some galaxies formed early in the universe, while others formed more slowly, across a long stretch of time.

Hubble confirms that the evolutionary paths of bulges and disks are connected. The central bulge stabilizes a galaxy's development and largely controls the ebb and flow of star birth in the core. The central bulge holds secrets as to how and when a galaxy formed. Before Hubble, astronomers had detailed information only about the complex core of our galaxy, which has a small bulge peppered with massive young star clusters and a telltale bar structure funneling gas to the center. Hubble allows astronomers to see bright star clusters, bars and other structures deep inside the bulges of other galaxies.

A group led by Reynier Peletier from the University of Nottingham, in the United Kingdom, has confirmed that the central bulges of more tightly wound spirals were all created at more or less the same time in the early universe.

A second team, led by C. Marcella Carollo of Columbia University in New York, surveyed galaxies that have small bulges and bar-like structures that bisect the nucleus like the slash across a no-smoking sign. They found that the bulges in these galaxies grew more recently, through markedly different processes happening within the galaxy's disk.

Both surveys used Hubble's precise resolution to peer into bulbous hubs of more than 200 neighboring galaxies, out to a distance of 100 million light years. Using Hubble's visible-light and infrared cameras to penetrate deep into the cores of the galaxies, astronomers were able to untangle the stars' true colors — a measure of age — from their apparent colors, which are made redder by interstellar dust.

SPACE CENTER Roundup

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